CLAIMS

1. A contents summarizing unit that extracts a characteristic motion of a player during a match from contents regarding sports of a program that is on the air,

5 of a material image prior to broadcasting, or of an image recorded by a recording media such as a video tape recorder and summarizes it in a required time period so that it can be watched in the required time period, and characterized by comprising an event information obtaining part that obtains

10 event information such as the characteristic motion of the player during the match from the above-mentioned contents, an inside expressing information producing part that produces inside expressing information describing an outline of the match based on the event information, a surface

15 sentence information producing part that produces surface sentence information expressed by a sentence that summarizes the contents based on the inside expressing information, and a contents summary information outputting part that outputs contents summary information wherein the surface sentence

20 information is associated with image information corresponding to the event information.

2. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1, and characterized by that a user information receiving part that

25 receives user information showing an interest or preference of a user is comprised and that the surface sentence information producing part produces the surface sentence information wherein the interest or preference of the user

is reflected in the inside expressing information based on the user information.

3. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1 or claim 2, and characterized by that a text element for summary storing part that stores a text element for summary comprising a word that can express the development of the match or the motion of the player of the contents concerned is comprised and that the surface sentence information producing part produces the surface sentence information based on the text element for summary.

4. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1, claim 2 or claim 3, and characterized by that the event information has a hierarchical structure based on a unit that can describe the match such as a structure on a rule of the sports concerned or the motion of the player.

5. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1, claim 2, claim 3 or claim 4, and characterized by that the event information includes match elapsed time information showing progress of the match.

6. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 4 or claim 5, and characterized by that the contents summary information output by the contents summary information outputting part is sorted based on an order of the hierarchical structure or the match elapsed time.

7. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1, claim 2, claim 3, claim 4, claim 5 or claim 6, and characterized by that the event information is so arranged to include at least either one of score information that shows a score or

5 a record, or play event information that shows a characteristic motion of each player.

8. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 1, claim 2, claim 3, claim 4, claim 5, claim 6 or claim 7, and

10 characterized by that the user information receiving part is so arranged to receive a time period requested to watch by the user, a summary time period checking part that compares the time period requested to watch by the user received by the user information receiving part with a total time period

15 of the contents summary information output by the contents summary information outputting part is arranged, and if the summary time period checking part judges that the time period requested to watch by the user is smaller than the total time period of the contents summary information, the

20 contents summary information outputting part compiles the contents summary information to be summarized within the time period requested to watch by the user based on the interest and/or preference of the user received by the user information receiving part and outputs it.

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9. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 7, and characterized by that a leading degree information producing part that compares score information of one player with

score information of the other player at an arbitrary
elapsed time of the match based on the score information and
produces leading degree information that expresses a leading
degree during development of the match between the above-
5   mentioned one player and the other player is comprised, and
that the inside expressing information producing part
produces the inside expressing information based on the
leading degree information.

10   10. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 9, and
characterized by that the leading degree information is
information wherein leading degree information at the
arbitrary elapsed time of the match is cumulated.

15   11. The contents summarizing unit described in claim 9 or
claim 10, and characterized by that the surface sentence
information producing part produces the surface sentence
information by classifying it into surface sentence match
development information in association with the development
20   of the match expressed by the inside expressing information
and surface sentence player motion information in
association with the distinguished motion of the player.

12. A contents summarizing unit that extracts a
25   characteristic motion of a player that shows development of
a match from contents regarding sports of a program that is
on the air, of a material image prior to broadcasting, or of
an image recorded by a recording media such as a video tape

recorder and summarizes it in a required time period so that
it can be watched in the required time period,
and characterized by comprising an event information
obtaining part that obtains score information showing a
5 point or a record and play event information showing a
characteristic motion of each player as being event
information from the above-mentioned contents, a leading
degree information producing part that compares score
information of one player with score information of the
10 other player at an arbitrary elapsed time of the match based
on the score information and produces leading degree
information that expresses a leading degree during the
development of the match between the above-mentioned one
player and the other player, an inside expressing
15 information producing part that produces inside expressing
information describing an outline of the development of the
match based on the leading degree information, a surface
sentence information producing part that produces surface
sentence information expressed by a sentence that summarizes
20 the contents based on the inside expressing information, and
a contents summary information outputting part that outputs
contents summary information wherein the surface sentence
information is associated with image information
corresponding to the event information.

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13. A contents summarizing program that activates a contents
summarizing unit that extracts a characteristic motion of a
player during a match from contents regarding sports of a

program that is on the air, of a material image prior to broadcasting, or of an image recorded by a recording media such as a video tape recorder and summarizes it in a required time period so that it can be watched in the

5   required time period by operating a computer, and characterized by making the computer serve as an event information obtaining means that obtains event information such as the characteristic motion of the player during the match from the above-mentioned contents, an inside

10   expressing information producing means that produces inside expressing information describing an outline of the match based on the event information, a surface sentence information producing means that produces surface sentence information expressed by a sentence that summarizes the

15   contents based on the inside expressing information, and a contents summary information outputting means that outputs contents summary information wherein the surface sentence information is associated with image information corresponding to the event information.

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14. A contents summarizing program that activates a contents summarizing unit that extracts a characteristic motion of a player that shows development of a match from contents regarding sports of a program that is on the air, of a

25   material image prior to broadcasting, or of an image recorded by a recording media such as a video tape recorder and summarizes it in a required time period so that it can be watched in the required time period by operating a

computer, and characterized by making the computer serve as

an event information obtaining means that obtains score

information showing a point or a record and play event

information showing a characteristic motion of each player

5 as being event information from the above-mentioned contents,

a leading degree information producing means that compares

score information of one player with score information of

the other player at an arbitrary elapsed time of the match

based on the score information and produces leading degree

10 information that expresses a leading degree during

development of the match between the above-mentioned one

player and the other player, an inside expressing

information producing means that produces inside expressing

information describing an outline of the development of the

15 match based on the leading degree information, a surface

sentence information producing means that produces surface

sentence information expressed by a sentence that summarizes

the contents based on the inside expressing information, and

a contents summary information outputting means that outputs

20 contents summary information wherein the surface sentence

information is associated with image information

corresponding to the event information.